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action for better roads and better schools the people of Guilford have performed not only for themselves but for the entire State a real service, by exhibiting sane attitudes toward two of the most vital and fundamental interests of democratic communities. They have demonstrated also the fiction of that economic depression alleged to have possessed the State. And that fiction, which some had hoped the people would accept with a sort of unregenerate glee, is now fading. Not only is it being condemned as highly improbable but the evidence increases that North Carolina, as a great and growing commonwealth, is rapidly awakening to the opportunities and obligations to provide adequately for all her citizens.—Edgar W. Knight.

### *A Parable*

Once upon a time in a state with 100 counties and many cities as well as towns there was a Teachers' Assembly which revised its organization under the plan of local units. Its secretary worked long and faithfully to have these local units organize and send their fees to him. Many questions and difficulties arose but he answered all the questions and made straight all the difficulties.

When this Assembly met in its annual meeting and the records were all in it was found that all the cities and towns in the State large enough to form local units had done so. But in the counties, alas and alack! For some reason 14 of the 100 counties had failed to organize themselves into local units, 86 had so organized.

Now the names of those counties not organizing were: Alleghany, Brunswick, Camden, Caswell, Clay, Cumberland, Dare, Graham, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Mitchell, Vance, Watauga.

The names of the counties which did organize local units were all written in the great book of the Secretary of the Teachers' Assembly and made a record there of the progressive, interested, stimulating character of the superintendent and teachers in these counties.

And when the Executive Committee of the Teachers' Assembly met and learned of this record it commended the work of the superintendents in the 86 counties and in the towns and cities, but it grieved heavily, yea mightily, to learn that 14 counties had failed to keep the professional faith, and with one accord the members of the Executive Committee began to ask—"Why?" None could answer the question and this Executive Committee one and all went to

their homes sorely puzzled at this neglect, or forgetfulness or opposition, or lack of interest in the 14 counties.

"Haec fabula docet"—You get big things done in a big way when your leader leads.—L. A. W.

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## THE LATIN COLUMN

### CICERO AND THE CONQUEST OF GAUL

IN the English periodical, *The Quarterly Review*, October, 1918, there is an article by J. Wells, which in an interesting way describes Cicero's knowledge about Gaul, his interest in Caesar's campaigns, his letters to and from Caesar and some of his legati in Gaul. Cicero evidently enjoyed a joke with his friends. To one, a lawyer on Caesar's staff, he writes that if he should accompany Caesar to Britian, no one in all the island would be more learned in the law than he. At another time he says that he has heard that it is "hot enough for him" there even in the winter time. Mr. Wells minimizes Cicero's interest in the Gallic conquest. He does not know apparently that Cicero was the senator who proposed and carried a vote for the fifteen days' thanksgiving to which Caesar refers at the end of the second book.—G. A. H.

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### QUINTILLIAN AND CHILD TRAINING

"Before all things, let the talk of the child's nurses not be ungrammatical. Chrysippus wished them, if possible, to be women of some knowledge; at any rate he would have the best, as far as the circumstances would allow, chosen. To their morals doubtless attention is first to be paid; but let them also speak with propriety. It is they that the child will hear first; it is their words that he will try to form by imitation. We are by nature most tenacious of what we have imbibed in our infant years. . . . Let the child not be accustomed therefore, even while he is an infant, to phraseology which must be unlearned."

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### SYNTAX

Syntax like vocabulary is affected by a law of diminishing returns. Twenty constructions account for 80% of the occurrences on any page of ordinary Latin. Forty constructions account for 90% of the occurrences. There are 141 constructions listed in the standard grammars. It takes the remaining 101 constructions to account for the other 10% of the occurrences. The Syntax of High School Latin by Byrne,

published by the University of Chicago Press, 1918, will give detailed information to any one who desires to learn of the 141 constructions as listed according to their order of merit.—H. F. L.

#### THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION

By the way, have you joined the Classical Association? Membership therein will help you to become a stronger and better teacher of Latin. Dr. Poteat, of Wake Forest, would like to enroll you. The member-

ship fee is \$2 a year which includes a subscription to the Classical Journal. Write him about it.—H. F. L.

#### PRACTICAL LATIN

Do you want to know the practical values in the study of Latin and do you want to learn how to give them such publicity that even the wayfaring man may read and be convinced? Then get a copy of "The Relation of Latin to Practical Life" by Frances Ellis Sabin as published by the author at Madison, Wisconsin.—H. F. L.

### NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL NOTES

A Parent-Teacher Association has been organized at Chapel Hill, and plans have been made for holding regular monthly meetings.

The school board of Raleigh Township has made provision for a survey of the Raleigh schools, to be made under the direction of the United States Bureau of Education.

According to press reports Asheville will hold an election early in March for a bond issue of \$550,000. An active campaign was begun in January to urge the people to support the proposed issue.

Mt. Airy reports a thriving Parent-Teacher Association which meets once a month with large attendance. The organization has published a very attractive program of its activities for 1920-21.

Superintendent Frank R. Richardson reports plans for a bond election for \$40,000 to erect a new building at Mocksville. The faculty of nine teachers are all graduates of standard colleges.

On January 18 the people of Oxford voted to issue seventy-five thousand dollars in bonds to erect a modern high school. This issue was in addition to an earlier issue for school improvement in that town.

A bill has been introduced into the Legislature providing free tuition at the University of North Carolina for every white boy and girl born in the State. The bill was presented by Senator Long, of Alamance County.

The Highway Council of the Chamber of Commerce of Winston-Salem has announced its purpose to go forward with plans for a two million dollars bond election in Forsyth County for building modern highways.

A debating club for the rural schools has been organized in Burke County and is enthusiastically supported. Questions have been selected and the debaters from each school entering the club study such questions

in preparation for the final contest at the close of the school term.

A High School Parent-Teacher Association was formally organized in Raleigh in January at a largely attended meeting of teachers and patrons. Officers were elected and a program of activities was mapped out for the association during the present year.

Superintendent H. C. Miller, of Spencer, reports an expenditure of \$7,000 on buildings and equipment during the past summer. Four new teachers were added, making a total of five in the high school and fourteen in the grades.

The school board of Salisbury on January 24th determined by resolution to have a suitable bill drawn and presented to the Legislature enabling that community to provide funds for the building of a high school and enlarging the present school buildings, and to provide also for the maintenance of an enlarged school plant.

The New Hanover School Bulletin is the name of a semi-monthly publication devoted to the promotion of public education in New Hanover County. It is edited by the superintendent with the assistance of principals and teachers and supported by advertisements and voluntary contributions. It is a very creditable undertaking.

Hawfields High School in Alamance County has put in a special short course in Agriculture for the farmers of that community and is using extension men for the work. Between thirty and forty farmers have enrolled for the course which is given twice each week. The experiment is very successful.

Superintendent J. Edward Allen, of Warren County, reports the elimination in 1920 of six one-teacher schools and the transportation of their pupils to larger schools. A similar record is in prospect for 1921. Two of the twelve townships that a year ago had nothing but one-teacher schools now have none at all.